

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SINGAP 02097 101031Z
ACTION HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 INSE-00 MCT-01 SS-15
DODE-00 SY-05 CA-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03
ICA-11 PA-01 NSC-05 /081 W
-----058737 101043Z /13

P R 100930Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 241
INFO AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SINGAPORE 2097

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: REF, SN, UN (VAM CO 24)
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR RESETTLEMENT IN US FOR ALLEGED HIJACKERS
OF VAM CO 24

REF: A) SINGAPORE 1904. B) STATE 101150, C) SINGAPORE 1712,
D) SINGAPORE 1626

1. AS REPORTED BY REFTELS, THE VIETNAMESE FREIGHTER VAM CO 24
WAS APPARENTLY HIJACKED BY SIX CREW MEMBERS AND A PASSENGER.

2. UPON ARRIVAL AT SINGAPORE, APRIL 9, 1978, THE ALLEGED
HIJACKERS PEACEFULLY SURRENDERED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES.

3. OF THE 34 PEOPLE ABOARD VAM CO 24, 13 PASSENGERS WERE
ACCEPTED FOR RESETTLEMENT BY AUSTRALIA, 13 WANTED TO RETURN
TO VIETNAM (REFTEL B), AND 8 BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN
HIJACKING WERE REFERRED TO THE EMBASSY BY THE UNHCR.

4. KWOK SIU YIN, UNHCR REPRESENTATIVE IN SINGAPORE REPORTED
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SINGAP 02097 101031Z

TO CONOFF ON 5/6/78 THAT HE BELIEVED THE HIJACK STORY WAS A
FABRICATION INVENTED TO ALLOW THE PEOPLE WHO CHANGED THEIR MINDS
ABOUT LEAVING VIETNAM TO RETURN SAFELY.

5. UNHCR HAS FORMALLY PRESENTED THE BIO DATA OF THE
SIX CREW MEMBERS AND ONE PASSENGER (LATTER ACCOMPANIED
BY HIS TWO YEAR OLD SON) WHO HAVE REQUESTED RESETTLE-

MENT IN THE US TO THE EMBASSY. BIO DATA HAS ALSO BEEN
PRESENTED TO OTHER COUNTRIES FOR CONSIDERATION.

7. DEPARTMENT'S DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FOR
HUMANITARIAN PAROLE IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 2 REFTTEL B
WOULD BE APPRECIATED. VISA FALCONS AND BIO DATA SENT
TODAY. GOS ANXIOUS ABOUT OUTCOME OF THEIR REQUEST, HAS
REPEATEDLY INQUIRED ABOUT THE ALLEGED HIJACKERS APPLICATION
FOR RESETTLEMENT SINCE RECEIPT OF THE UNHCR REFERRAL.
PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.
HOLDRIDGE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES, REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT, HIGH SEAS INCIDENTS, VAM CO 24
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 10 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SINGAP02097
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780198-0176
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780573/aaaackfz.tel
Line Count: 73
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 414530a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION HA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 SINGAPORE 1904, 78 STATE 101150, 78 SINGAPORE 1712
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2734819
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR RESETTLEMENT IN US FOR ALLEGED HIJACKERS OF VAM CO 24
TAGS: SREF, EWWT, SN, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/414530a1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014